

GERMANY'S SYMPATHY- DRIVE NOT ENCOURAGED

**Acting Secretary of State Polk in Receipt of the
Unofficial Text of Latest Note—Said to Be
Designed to Create False Sympathy
Among Americans — Not to Be**

Published.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Germany's sympathy drive is to receive no encouragement from this country.

This was the plain advice given today when it was stated that Germany's latest note to the United States would not be made public. While the communication has not been officially delivered, acting Secretary of State Hughes let it be known today that the state department had come into possession of the unofficial text.

It was learned, however, that the note was nothing more nor less than a plea for German aid designed to create a false sympathy in this country in an effort to convey to the American people the impression that this government is dealing harshly with Germany. Also, it was understood, the note was sent to the United States in violation of the repeated requests of the state department that

There is no possibility of making it public," declared the acting secre-

President Wilson and representatives of the allies.

Commenting upon the desire of the Spanish premier to secure participation in the peace conference for Spain, the *Radio*

problem is most complex and delicate. It adds:

"Count Romanones, whose attitude has been constantly sympathetic toward the entente, will certainly be given."

FOUR DAYS IN LONDON

President Expects to Be Here

**3,720 LAND AT
NEWPORT NEWS**

Five Troopships Dock in New York and Virginia Ports.

4,161 Soldiers Reach New York—Over Thousand of 117th Artillery.

New York, Dec. 20.—The United States Army transport Henry R. Mallory arrived today with 1,461 American soldiers from Bordeaux, France, nine hundred and one of the men were members of the 1st Infantry. The units aboard were headquarters, sanitary and ordnance detachments, headquarters company, supply company, band and detachments of batteries A and B of the 13d regiment field artillery, company of engineers, and headquarters and headquarters of the 65th artillery brigade, comprising 3 officers and 55 men. The sick and

wounded comprised 32 officers and 889 men, of whom 20 are bedridden, 100 are disabled, and 88 require no special attention.

Transport From Brazil.

The transport "Manchuria" from Brazil, carrying 58 officers and 4,003 men, also arrived today. She carries 13 officers and 32 men of the 56th field artillery; 44 officers and 863 men of the 10th cavalry; 24 officers and 1,452 men of the 117th field artillery; 10 officers and 98 men of the

Star liner Meroitic from Liverpool, among whose 310 passengers were 150 of American, Australian and Canadian origin, and 100 Italian, and Red Cross workers. An Italian train commission, composed of Col. Hugo Pinarelli and Lieut. Col. Giovanni Biondi, was also on board. Regarding the Russian situation before the preliminaries to the peace conference. The correspondent pointed out that the Russian government, Premier Kerensky and Paul N. Milner, former Russian foreign minister and leader of the constitutional democrats, had been in London in this connection to Wednesday. Pinarelli said in a statement by Vincenzo Milner, secretary for war, on the Russian situation, that the Russian government intended to prepare the peace

Newport News, Va., Dec. 20.—The transports Martha Washington and Mercury docked here today with 5,500 men and 100 guns. Including 600 wounded. The returning soldiers were paraded from the debarkation pier to the city and then to the city hall for events to be commended.

"Symptoms of an advanced stage of the influenza epidemic are growing daily," the correspondent continues, "and the feeling, not only in labor quarters but in the city generally, is that it will become very tense about our adventure in Russia. The impulse of the allied movement is believed to have been to not share the share which America must take in the war."

The 118th field artillery, 1,513 men

and 58 officers; the 102d, 102d, 104th and 107th casualty companies, 550 men; First marine aviation force, 600 men and 141 officers (fly); headquarters company, 116th field artillery, 5 officers and 151 men; First unit of 25th division came to return, officers and noncommissioned officers, 128.

The 118th field artillery, under command Col. John C. Butler, came from the Martha Washington, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan.

The 118th is made up of drafted men from thirty-eight states and did strenuous fighting in the Toul sector. They were men of the June draft. The majority came from from Colorado, Illinois and Michigan.

The Mercury brought four companies of casualties under command of Col. Boeschen. These men were in the front line in the strenuous fighting in the Argonne.

The First marine aviation' force, who were in the thick of the fighting in Flanders, also came on the Mercury.

BOYS DRIVEN TO SEA

Forced to Swim Nearly Mile to Gulf Coast

Quarantine, La., Dec. 29.—Murray Humphreys and Warren Agnew, 17-year-old Biloxi youths, who last Saturday were driven out to sea while making a trip from Gulfport to Biloxi, and who swam nearly a mile to land yesterday, were reported today to be recovering from the effects of their ordeal.

COMING HOME

Holidays

Congressman John H. Moon to be expected home tomorrow to spend holidays at home. Judge Moon has completed and introduced his trip postoffice appropriation bill. His recommendation for \$28,900,000 will go to the senate for its concurrence.

ATTACK ON FINLAND

The boys explained that an easterly wind Saturday drove their small motor launch into the ice. The Finns were exhausted and they drifted helplessly until they were rescued by the Russians, who could gather, until yesterday when they sighted land. They swim nearly 100 miles, and then walked to Chateau Canard.